



BEST WARRIOR COMPETITION 2009

COMPETITION COMPONENTS

FACT SHEET



What is the U.S. Army Best Warrior Competition?

Twenty-four of the Army's finest Warriors, representing 12 commands from across the Army, will gather at Fort Lee, Va., to compete in the 2009 Best Warrior Competition. After winning at their local command levels, these Warriors will now represent their command and face-off to see who will be named the U.S. Army's Best Warriors.

Warriors selected to compete for the prestigious titles, 12 NCOs and 12 Soldiers, have mastered a series of benchmarks throughout the year to qualify for the Army-wide, Best Warrior Competition.

Upon arrival to the competition, these elite Soldier competitors will test their Army aptitude, conquering urban warfare simulations, board interviews, physical fitness tests, essays and Warrior tasks and battle drills relevant to today's operating environment.

Described as the "Super Bowl" of Army competitions, the Best Warrior will celebrate its eighth anniversary this year.

Participants:

The Warriors represented in the competition compete on behalf of these Army Commands: U.S. Army Forces Command, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, U.S. Army Europe, U.S. Army Materiel Command, U.S. Army Forces Korea, U.S. Army Medical Command, U.S. Army Pacific Command, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, U.S. Army Special Operations Command, U.S. Army Reserve Command, U.S. Army National Guard, and the National Capitol Region, which includes several smaller commands.

When: Sept. 28 – Oct. 3, 2009

Where: Fort Lee, Va.

Events:

- **In-Processing and Welcome Dinner**

During in-processing, the Warriors receive room assignments, post orientation and other necessary information to make their stay at Fort Lee, Va., memorable and enjoyable. The Warriors get the week started with a Welcome Dinner, a time of relaxation, fellowship and camaraderie.

- **Command Sergeants Major Board Appearance**

Warriors must have command of their appearance and knowledge of the Army as competitors will appear before a Command Sergeants Major Board where they will answer a variety of questions related to the U.S. Army.

Competitors are assessed by their breadth and depth of knowledge on areas such as military leadership and counseling; current events; U.S. Army history; tactical communications; survival; battle-focused training; weapons; U.S. government and Constitution; land navigation; the NCO Creed and history; and myriad other focus areas.

- **Pre-Combat Inspection and Media Interview Day**

During Pre-Combat Inspection, Warriors check over their equipment to ensure they have everything they need for success. Equipment provided to each warrior includes Kevlar, a Kevlar camouflage cover, protective vest, two camelbaks, two ammunition pouches, one first aid pouch and individual body armor. Media Interview Day allows local, regional and national media to question competitors.

- **Physical Fitness Test/Weigh-In**

Warriors must complete as many push-ups and sit-ups as they possibly can during two minute increments. Then, they take to the track for a timed, two-mile run. In addition, Warriors must meet required Army weight standards.

- **Urban Warfare Orienteering Course (Day/Night Land Navigation)**

Warriors must complete both a day and night land navigation course. During land navigation and orientation, Warriors are given a map, a compass, a pencil and a list of approximately six digit grid coordinates that correlate to points they must find within the mapped area. They are also given the grid coordinates from their starting point. Before leaving the starting point, Warriors will plot their points on the map, determine how far away each point is based on information in the map's legend, and then use their compasses to find the correct azimuth. Once they have this information, they will proceed to each point and write down a set of identifying information on each point. The first one back with their points correctly identified wins. Each phase of this event must be completed in an allotted amount of time and competitors must locate all of the checkpoints.

- **Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills**

Today's Soldiers must be versed in a variety of Warrior tasks outside of their primary military occupational skill. The Warriors must successfully work through battlefield scenarios including: Individual Conduct and the Laws of War; Combat First Aid and Unexploded Ordnance.

Individual Conduct and the Laws of War include compliance with and enforcing the Laws of War and the Geneva and Hague conventions and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Warriors are expected to be able to successfully complete

interactions with news media, maintain compliance with requirements of the Code of Conduct, and enforce compliance with other important Army policies.

During First Aid scenarios, Warriors are expected to show expertise in evaluating casualties, treating common combat injuries such as preventing/controlling shock, burns, head injuries, and open wounds; transporting casualties; and requesting medical evacuation and coordinating medical activity support.

In the unexploded ordnance phase, competitors have to identify unconventional explosive weapons and their triggers. For example, Warriors may have to identify a propane tank with a plastic explosive and a trip wire trigger. Most of the current improvised explosive devices are represented in the lane.

- **M-4 Range Qualification**

The basic weapon of today's Warrior is the rifle. Warriors must successfully fire the M4 rifle at a set number of targets under timed conditions during day and night operations.

- **Mystery Event**

Soldiers must be able to react, adapt and overcome a situation quickly and decisively. The Mystery Event is designed to see how well the Warriors can think on their feet while under both physical and mental stress.

- **AUSA Awards Luncheon**

Sergeant Major of the Army Kenneth O. Preston announces competition winners at the annual Association of the United States Army luncheon attended by Army Senior Leadership.